



Information Directorate honors contractor personnel *by Fran Crumb, Information Directorate*

ROME, N.Y. — The Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate recently presented an On-Site Contractor Recognition Award to a team from PRC Inc. during annual Heritage Day ceremonies.

Traditionally, awards have been presented to outstanding government scientists, engineers and support personnel for their efforts in the laboratory's research and development mission, as well as professional and community service. This marks the second year that on-site contractor personnel have been selected for specific recognition.

More than 700 contractor personnel augment the nearly 900-member staff of military and civilian workers at the AFRL Rome Research Site.

The PRC team was composed of Christopher S. Croad, Jeffery C. Isherwood, Joseph A. Borgia, Russell A. Arcuri, Roman C. Lomeli, Elliot H. Gordon, Dana R. Stefanec and Erastus Council. The eight were cited for their efforts operating the directorate's Network Control Center (NCC) following the worldwide outbreak of the "I LOVE YOU" computer virus last May.

The NCC analyzed the virus, understood how it was spread and how to detect it; then devised a plan and executed the necessary actions to protect the directorate's computers from infection. By working diligently and quickly, the NCC staff cleaned all occurrences of the virus and made the site's computers operational within three hours.

The team also implemented filters and wrote software programs that detected the virus and prevented more than 1,600 infected messages from entering directorate e-mail accounts during the two-week period following the initial outbreak.

As a result of the actions of the NCC staff, the Information Directorate was able to continue serving both commercial partners and defense organizations without major disruption. @